## **FISCAL NOTE**

#### HB 254 - SB 290

February 23, 2007

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Requires the state, county, and district health departments to only hire health educators who are certified health education specialists as certified by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc.

### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

Increase State Expenditures - \$81,200

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Not Significant

# Assumptions:

- Currently, there are 77 contract, county and state Public Health Educator 2 and 3 positions.
- The Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) certification must be renewed every year through a \$55 annual fee.
- Recertification takes place every five years and requires an additional \$55 fee.
- After the initial certification, CHES requires 15 continuing education contact hours (CECH) per year. It is estimated that the cost to maintain 15 CECH will average \$1,000 per public health educator.
- The annual cost per person is estimated at \$1,055 (\$1,000 + \$55). With 77 public Health Educator positions, the total increase in state expenditures is estimated to be \$81,235 (\$1,055 X 77).
- According to the Comptroller's office, the six counties that contract with the State Department of Health will incur a fiscal impact. This is included in the state expenditures.

#### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

James W. White, Executive Director